



The Irish Book Lover

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IRISH 1798 COLLECTION

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GREAT IRISH BOOK COLLECTORS.

II.—REV. DR. NELIGAN.

About the time that the great library of Bishop Murphy was being disposed of, a new rector was appointed to the historic church of St. Mary, Shandon, who was destined to carry on the book-loving traditions of the City on the Lee for another space of forty years. This was Wm. Chadwick Neligan, A.M., LL.D., of a Tipperary family. He was a keen collector, not only of books, but of antiquities, coins and curios, and wrote some pamphlets of antiquarian interest. He seems to have been a good customer to the auctioneers, for no name occurs so frequently as his in their books, and he had no fewer than seven sales during his life time, besides the inevitable one after his death, which occurred in his 82nd year, on 6th October, 1887, some nine years after he had resigned his living. At his first miscellaneous sale at Sotheby's, on 8th August, 1850, the Irish books were practically given away. Thus Smith's History of, and Townsend's Survey of Cork, went to Westall for 1s. 6d.; 12 vols. of pamphlets on the Catholic question fetched 3s. 6d.; Father O'Daly's *Histoire de la famille des Geraldin, Comtes de Desmond, Dunkerque*, 1697, 17s.; a volume of 11 Early Catechisms, mainly in black letter, fetched £8 15s., and a similar volume of four £4 18s. The total only amounted to £70. On 12th April, 1851, he sold off his numismatic books, at which H. G. Bohn gave a guinea for Sainthill's *Olla Podrida*, and Lindsay's two works on Coinage, Cork printed, fetched 15s. and 17s. respectively. On Tuesday, 5th December, 1854, a select portion of his library was sold at Sotheby's, and a fortnight later we find him busy buying at Crofton Croker's sale at Putticks. This portion represented many of his purchases at the sale of Sir Wm. Betham's library in the previous June. Amongst the rarities were *Baronii, B. (Hybernii) Metra Miscellanea, Coloinae Agrip*, 1657, a volume of Latin poetry by a native of Clonmel, which is graphically described in one of the odes, and another is addressed to his uncle,

the famous Luke Wadding. To a copy of John Lawless's *Belfast Politics*, 1818, is appended a curious note, "This work is now very scarce, the copies having been burnt in Smithfield by order of the Government." Can any Northern reader corroborate this statement? A copy of O'Grady's *Nosegay* went for sixpence, and Quaritch got Molloy's *Lucerna Fidelium*, printed in Irish at Rome in 1676, for a shilling. *Beauties of the British Poets*, by Sebastian Melmoth Huddersfield, 1803, is only noticeable as showing whence Oscar Wilde obtained a pseudonym. A sketch book of Sir Wm. Betham's realized £3 15s., and De Burgo's *Hib. Dom.*, with supplement, £3. Patrick Darcy's *Argument* delivered by express order of House of Commons, 1641, Waterford, 1643, fetched half a guinea, as did Sir F. Hamilton's *Information Concerning Sir Wm. Cole*, with the *Scandalous Answer* of the said Cole, privately printed, 1645. Story's *Impartial History* went for a shilling, and so did Capt. Gerrat Barry's *Seige of Breda*, fol., Louvain, 1627. Many beautiful old MSS. dating from 14th and 15th centuries were disposed of at prices varying from three to thirty pounds each, and some modern ones such as Archdall's *Genealogical Tables*, Sir Wm. Betham's *Historical Atlas* and Bishop Clayton's *Commonplace Book*. Boone secured for £2 a folio MS. *Record of all Corporate Acts of the Borough of Newtown, in the County of Down, from 1741 to 1775 inclusive*. This seems unknown to historians, and one wonders where its present location is or how it came to be sold. An 8vo MS. of the 16th Cent. found in the ruins of the old priory in Slaughtery, an island in the Shannon, Robert Ware's copies of his father's MSS., and "A Match at Football," in three cantoes (no doubt Concannin's), "apparently in the handwriting of Dean Swift." The whole amount realized was £416. His next sale was held on 21st June, 1861, and the principal items therein were a copy of a *Nouveau Testament*, Paris, 1661, which realized £31, a "Brief Description" of which he had privately printed at Cork this year, several MS. poems and sketches by pleasant Dick Milliken, and a beautifully written MS. by Thomas Cooke, sometime Mayor of Youghal, entitled *Memoirs of the Town of Youghal*, 4to, 1749, containing lists of all the mayors, burgesses and freemen, which sold for 32s. The total obtained was £126 15s. His next sale, in December, 1868, was confined to Irish and other antiquities, and realized £223. On 23rd February, 1872, a further portion was sold which contained

an edition of the *Curiosities of Literature*, printed at Newry, a set of John Lindsay's *Numismatical Works* in 8 vols.; *The Examiner*, a rare periodical published in Dublin in 1711, and Sainthill's *Olla Podrida*. A note appended to this says, "Vol. 2 is almost impossible to get. Mr. Sainthill, shortly before his decease, searched many places for it, for a particular friend, but was not successful." Total, £162. In January, 1884, another portion came under the hammer, and the largest purchaser was the late Lord Brabourne. The principal item was R. D. Parker's *Illustrations of Irish Birds*, drawn life size, and accurately coloured, 170 original drawings, comprising 260 birds. This came from Lord Farnham's library in 1869. It is stated that the artist was offered £500 for the collection, but it only realized £133. The celebrated MS. of *The Conversion of Sir Tobie Mathew* only fetched £7 15s. Dr. Neligan privately printed a description of this at Cork, and the work has since been published in the *Life of Sir Tobie Mathew*. Sir Boyle Roche's patent of Baronetcy brought £1, and 8 volumes of Dublin Chap Books realized five guineas. A copy of the *Kilmarnock Burns* fetched £51, and the poet's own copy of the 1793 edition with his emendations went for £30, the whole realizing £389. His "post mortem" sale was held on 31st July, 1888, at which Quaritch gave £8 10s., for *List of Claims entered at Chichester House, 1704*. It contained many chap books and a presentation copy of O'Grady's *Nosegay to Sir Robt. Peel*. As indicating the collecting propensities of the man, amongst other items, were 450 wood blocks "suitable for illustrating children's books," book plates, and bank notes! and the whole realized £257.

There is a portrait of Dr. Neligan in the engraving of the "Book Sale at Sotheby's" by H. M. Paget, reproduced as a frontispiece to W. C. Hazlitt's "The Book Collector," (London) 1904.

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It is proposed that a collection of modern Irish verse should be brought together and published in aid of the funds for providing additional comforts for the Irish troops wounded in the war. Mr. Albert C. White, himself a poet of no mean merit, has undertaken the editorship—a labour of love—and invites the co-operation of our readers. We heartily commend the project, and wish it all success. Letters should be addressed to Mr. White, at 5, London-road, Newbury, Berks.

PRINTING IN BOYLE

Cotton, Madden and Power make no mention of this country town possessing a printing press, a rather curious oversight on the part of the last-named, when we consider that the British Museum in his day possessed long runs of two newspapers printed there. As we find the case in so many other Irish provincial towns, the growth and spread of newspapers was the cause of the establishment of a press in Boyle, and we see the first printer, John Bromell, holding a monopoly of the business for a quarter of a century until the advent of Jane Siggins, of whose existence we only learn by an entry in Slater's "Directory," no imprint of hers being known to me. It will also be noticed that, apart from newspapers, the output was meagre, only on two or three occasions extending beyond a pamphlet. However, I feel confident, judging merely by the two entries of the Grand Jury Abstracts, that many other such works must have been printed here, but being of an ephemeral nature would only be preserved in official circles. Now, can any of our readers add to the list?

1822. A Collection of Hymns, Selected for the use of Congregations and Families. (J. Bromell, Main St) 18mo., X. + 130pp. (Rev. R. S. Maffett. E. R. McC. Dix.)

1822, April 27th, to June 17th, 1882. The Roscommon and Leitrim Gazette. No. 1, etc. (John Bromell, Main St.) Weekly, Saturdays. Price 6d. 4 pages of 5 cols. each. Woodcut of Boyle Abbey on first page. (Brit. Mus./N.)

NOTE.—In issue for 26th Oct., 1822, the inner pages are blank.

1824 First Annual Report of the County of Roscommon Ladies' Society, etc., etc., for Ameliorating the Condition of the Female Peasantry of Ireland. (John Bromell.) 4to., title-leaf + 46pp. + cover. (R.I.A./T., Box 425/7.)

(1824.) An Impartial Report of the Speeches delivered at the Bible Discussion held in Carrick-on-Shannon, on . . . 9th Novr., 1824, etc., etc. (Printed at the "Roscommon and Leitrim Gazette" Office.) 12mo., vi. + 4to., 56pp. (T.C.D./Gal, 6.1.98/6.)

1824. The Friendly Instructor; containing hints for the manufacture of Irish Traunveen Grass into hats and bonnets, in imitation of those made at Leghorn. (J. Bromell.) 12to., 24pp. (Brit. Mus. 7956. a; R.I.A./H.P. Vol. 1305/1.)

1825. The Vintner's Guide, etc., containing Useful Information, etc.
xx. + (4) + 228pp. 12mo. (John Bromell.) (E. R. McC. Dix.)
- 1827, April 5th. "To the Tenantry upon the Boyle and Rockingham
Estates." Lord Lorton. S.sh. (John Bromell.) "Roscommon
and Leitrim Gazette" Office. (R.I.A., Broadside3.)
1828. Correspondence between the Rev. Mr. Stony and the Rev. Mr.
Quin, etc., etc. Castlereagh. (J. Bromell.) 8vo., 80pp. Paper
cover.) (R.I.A./T., Box 447/5; E. R. McC. Dix.)
1830. Form of legal summons. (Bromell.) (E. R. McC. Dix.)
1836. Boyle Savings Bank. Pass book. (Printed at "The Roscom-
mon and Leitrim Gazette" Newspaper Office.) 12mo., 14pp. +
1 leaf (table) + ruled leaves. (R.I.A. In box of Ordnance
Survey Letters.)
- 1836, 2nd Jany. Roscommon and Leitrim Gazette. Vol. XIV., No.
37, 4pp. of 5 cols. each. Weekly. Saturday. Price 6d. Wood-
cut of Boyle Abbey. (John Bromell, Proprietor, Main St.)
(Brit. Mus./N.)
- 1836 or 1837. Boyle Savings Bank. Statement of Funds for year
ending 20th Novr., 1836. Large broadside. Printed on one side
only. (J. Bromell.) R.I.A./Box of O.S. Letters.)
1843. A Collection of Psalms and Hymns, Selected for the use of
Congregations and Families. (Printed at the "Roscommon and
Leitrim Gazette" Office, by J. Bromell.) 18mo., xii. + 150pp.
Boards. Folds in sixes. (E. R. McC. Dix.)
1846. The Roscommon and Leitrim Gazette. (Weekly, Saturdays.)
(John Bromell, Main St.) (Vide Slater's Directory.)
1846. (Jane Siggins, Main St.) (Vide Slater's Directory.)
1852. The Correspondence between the Rev. G. W. Dalton, A.B.,
etc., and the Rev. Jos. McTucker, etc. (Printed at the "Ros-
common and Leitrim Gazette" Office.) 16mo., 24pp. (R.I.A./T.
Box 521/7.)
1853. Roscommon and Leitrim Mission. Facts of the Visit to Boyle,
etc., etc. (Printed at the "Roscommon and Leitrim Gazette"
Office, by J. Bromell.) 12mo., 32pp. (R.I.A./T., Box 524/1.)
- 1859, April 30th, to 1900. The Roscommon Herald and Boyle and
Leitrim News. Vol. 1, no number. Saturdays, 4d. 4 pages of
6 cols. (George Marcus Tully. (Brit. Mus./N.)

1885. The Roscommon Constitutionalist. Fridays, 2d. (General Printing Works, Main St. Boyle.) (Sell's Dict. of World's Press.)
1888. The Roscommon Herald. Weekly, Saturdays. 2d. (Honoraria J. Tully.) (Sell's Dict. World's Press.)
- 1889, Jany. 19th, to Nov. 7th, 1891. The Roscommon Constitutionalist. Vol. V., No. 37, etc. 4 pages of 7 cols. each. (No printer's name. Main St. Boyle.) (Brit. Mus./N.)
- 1891, Feby. 14th. The Boyle Gazette and Roscommon Reporter. No. 1, price 1d. 4 pages of 6 cols. each. (John Thomson Smith, Main St., Boyle.) (J. T. Smith, the editor, was arrested, and the paper ceased with No. 23, 25th July.) (Brit. Mus./N.)
1891. County of Roscommon. Abstract of Presentments, Spring Assizes. March, 1891. (Printed at the "Roscommon Herald" Machine Printing Office.) $8\frac{1}{2} \times 5\frac{1}{2}$ cut down, pp. 275, in fours, and interleaved. (J. S. Crone.)
1897. County of Westmeath, Abstract of Presentments. Summer Assizes. (Printed at the "Roscommon Herald" Machine Printing Office.) Title-leaf only. (Jas. Tuite.)

E. R. McC. DIX.

SARAH CURRAN.

Written at her grave-side, Newmarket, Co. Cork.

A cross in the churchyard by Newmarket town,
 A silence where solemn trees wave:
 A memory greener through years that have gone
 Than the holly that shelters her grave.

Yes, clear as the day when she plighted her vow
 To the lover who sleeps far apart—
 Though a handful of dust is her loveliness now
 And ashes her passionate heart.

Sweet sister of sorrow thy name is entwined
 With HIS name on the headstone above—
 The patriot-martyr for ever enshrined
 By the love that was greater than love.

22nd July, 1915.

RANDALL McDONNELL.

"EDWARD O'DONNELL."

In a note about O'Donovan Rossa in the August issue of your excellent periodical, there is a mention of "Edward O'Donnell," the writer of the note expressing the opinion that Rossa did not write the novel. He is correct. "Edward O'Donnell" was written by the late Edward Moran. He sent me a copy of the book at the time it was published, and on the half-title he wrote, "Six weeks' work—all my own. Pass the book on to Dowling when you have read it." While a youth, Moran was associated in literary pursuits in his native Waterford with Thomas Sexton, Richard Dowling, and Edmund Leamy. They (and some others) founded a club, which they styled "The What d'ye call it Club," and contributions from the members appeared from time to time in the columns of "The Waterford Chronicle," then (circa 1868-1870) conducted by Alderman William Ward.

Subsequently Moran became a solicitor, and practised in Waterford. Towards the close of the seventies he went to America, and there, for a time, he combined journalistic with legal work. At one period he was on the staff of "The Irish World." When General Pryor was sent to London by the late Mr. Patrick Ford for the purpose of defending O'Donnell (who was hanged for the murder of James Carey), Moran accompanied Pryor to London. Neither of the lawyers was permitted to appear officially at the Old Bailey. On his return to the States Moran wrote the novel to which Rossa's name, as author, is attached, the surname of the hero being most likely inspired by his connection with Carey's executioner.

Moran was an extremely brilliant man, but he did not seem to be able to write as effectively as he talked. He died last year in Brooklyn, where he had for many years practised as a lawyer. Two of his brothers—both much younger than him—are editors, one of "The Land Agent's Review" (London), and the other of "The Leader" (Dublin).

EDMUND DOWNEY.

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Mr. D. Carolan Rushe, whose "Historical Sketches of Monaghan" is a valuable little work, has in the Press a companion volume entitled "Monaghan in the Eighteenth Century," the result of his more recent researches. It is being printed by Mr. Tempest, of Dundalk, and will be published shortly by Messrs. M. H. Gill.

EDITOR'S GOSSIP.

Amongst the Irish magazines for August the "Irish Monthly" still holds a prominent place for the excellence and variety of its numerous contributions, the most notable of them being "The Crowd," by Stephen J. Brown, S.J., an entertaining account of the late lamented novelist and "Soggarth Aroon" of Doneraile-Canon Sheehan; a review of Katharine Tynan's War Poems, by Rev. G. O'Neill, S.J., and the continuation of Madge Blundell's serial "When the Wood is Green." The "Irish Ecclesiastical Record" contains "Talav an Eask," by Rev. W. P. Browne, an interesting description of our countrymen in Newfoundland; Rev. J. P. Rushe describes "The Trials of Some Irish Missionaries," and Rev. M. H. MacInerny continues his excellent biography of "Primate Reginald of Armagh."

Lord Killanin concludes his long and striking article "The Sick-bed of Cuchuluin," in the August "Nineteenth Century." Here are a few aphorisms from it: "An Irishman lives for the honour and glory of the thing, and not for bread and butter. He is a spendthrift in passion, purse, and power. He will not be treated as 'an economic unit.' He will subscribe to a cathedral rather than to a creamery, and put a penny in the slot rather than in the penny bank. Ireland's vocation seems to have been, and to be, religious and missionary, not economic and acquisitive. In the Irish names of Bishops and clergy of modern times in America and Australia, one sees the successors of the Irish monks and saints who preached the Gospel throughout Europe in the early Middle Ages." In the same issue Canon Hannay (Geo. A. Birmingham) writes on "Ireland and the War" in his usual humorous fashion. He tells that "a police officer who was so ill-advised as to interfere with a gun-running coup at Howth, was dismissed; just to teach him and the rest of us that royal proclamations are not to be taken seriously," and that "we were utterly unaccustomed to being a 'Bright Spot,' and we are not at all sure that we liked it."

"The Bookman" publishes portraits of Mrs. Norah T. O'Mahony—whose first volume of verse was reviewed in these pages last month—and of Robert Lynd, the literary editor of the "Daily News." Of the latter a friend and fellow-townsmen prophesys that "Someone will have the common sense to found a weekly review in Ireland and

make him editor of it . . . whether or not he edits a review in Ireland is not nearly so important as the fact that he will one day write a book on Ulster which will make Ulster understood throughout the world." To the "British Review" Katharine Tynan contributes a couple of poems, and Alfred Perceval Graves one entitled "The Call of the Mountains"; and "Cassell's Magazine of Fiction" contains a humorous sketch by Max Pemberton, "O'Flanagan's Submarine," whilst Francis Joseph Bigger has an excellent article in "The Antiquary" on "Inis Mahee, of the Saints and Scholars," in Strangford Lough.

I am sincerely sorry to learn that my friend Herbert Pim, better known in literary circles as "A Newman," the author of that powerful novel "The Pessimist," has been sentenced to imprisonment under the Defence of the Realm Act for refusing to expatriate himself. Mr. Pim, a charming man and an excellent specimen of the fine flower of learning, was brought up a Quaker, but embraced the Catholic faith, and owes his conversion to Nationalism to his reading the "Speeches from the Dock," which induces the saddening reflection that no matter what changes take place or what circumstances prevail in Ireland, the prison cell is still considered the fitting place for one who loves her, and would serve her, according to his lights.

NOTICES OF NEW BOOKS.

IN MR. KNOX'S COUNTRY. By E. OE. Somerville and Martin Ross. (Longmans.) 6s. This latest effort of the two brilliant lady writers who have brought so much pure fun and honest laughter into our lives, shows not the least falling off in their peculiar vein, but is as fresh and mirth-provoking as ever, and will rank as one of their best. All, or nearly all, our old friends—for we have come to look upon their characters as friends—re-appear in these pages, and the caste is reinforced by several new and equally interesting dramatis personæ like Miss Fraser, lady doctor and horse trainer, and the jovial "locum" Dr. Hickey. The latter's experience of letting out the lunatics to see the sports at Carrow, when the keepers got tipsy and had to be assisted home by the "loonies" is inimitable. The eight illustrations by Miss Somerville are a great advance upon her sketches in the earlier novels.

AN ACCOUNT OF THE HONOURABLE SOCIETY OF KING'S INNS, DUBLIN. From its Foundation until the Beginning of the Nineteenth Century, with Notices of the Four Courts. By Gustavus Everard Hamilton, B.A. (W. G. Neale.) 1s. The only history we possess of this ancient and honourable Society is Duhigg's, published so long ago as 1806. Struck by the inaccuracies therein, Mr. Hamilton has set to work to compile a more accurate and reliable account, aided by the many sources of information rendered available since Duhigg's day, and has performed his task with assiduity and care. The brochure is written in an easy, popular style that will commend itself to the general reader as well as the gentlemen of the long robe. We congratulate Mr. W. G. Neale on the excellent manner in which he has turned out this, his first independent venture as a publisher.

THE LONG RETREAT and other Doggerel. By Arnold F. Graves. (John Murray.) 1s. Mr. Arnold Graves frankly labels his work as "doggerel"—an evident injustice, for his verses appeal to the emotions and stir the blood in one's veins as surely never "doggerel" did before. He has endeavoured to detail the thoughts and feelings of the men of the rank and file during the retreat from Mons, and in other deathless deeds of this great war, in their own "sabre cuts of Saxon Speech," like:—

"Next the Sergeant had his try,
He didn't seem the least bit shy,
He didn't dodge, he didn't duck,
But marched straight on till he was struck.
He didn't lie down like a lamb,
But died, God bless him! shouting 'Damn!'"

He has succeeded far beyond the efforts of more ambitious writers who dub their efforts poetry.

LIFE AND TIMES OF CHARLES J. KICKHAM. By James J. Healy. (Duffy.) 2s. 6d. Another life of Kickham; truly that gentle Fenian leader is coming into his own, and the generation that has arisen since his time shows a laudable desire to obtain an adequate knowledge of his career. In supplying this Mr. Healy has taken great pains to collect reliable information from many sources, the newspapers of the period and more recently published reminiscences, as well as from the lips of that rapidly-thinning band of friends who knew Kickham in the flesh, and the result is a readable little volume. Some might be inclined to dispute his estimate of Kickham as "a

great poet" and "the greatest novelist Ireland has given birth to," but that is only the pardonable enthusiasm of a hero worshipper and --a Tipperary man. Mr. Chris F. Healy contributes an admirable introduction.

AN LEABHAR BREAC. This is the title of a series of hand-coloured broadsides in the style made familiar by Jack Yeats and the Cuala Press. The subjects are songs in English and Irish by poets living and dead, and the designs and illustrations are cleverly executed by John Patten. Here is a quaint little specimen from the Irish:--

"Now art thou lost, now hardly crost
Land of the reverend head,
And dismal Fate, how harsh thy hate
That gives her lack of bread.
Though broad her fields and rich her yields
From Liffey to the Lee,
Her grain but grows to flesh the foes
Of Erin in the Sea!"

In another, "The Shuiler," Joseph Connolly finely sings the joys of the open road. These interesting productions are issued by the Decorative Art Association, Belfast, at the low price of sixpence each, and are well worth the money.

A LOVELY HOME. By M. A. Hargadon. (Maunsel & Co.) 1s. The author writes fluently and pleasantly in the measure familiar to us in Goldsmith's poems, rather marred here and there by a false quantity. He sings enthusiastically the beauties of his native town --Sligo--and boyhood's days therein, and his love for and pride in it is unbounded, whilst his admiration for her famous sons is well expressed, as in this characteristic sample:--

WILLIAM BUTLER YEATS.

"A son of Sligo now careers sublime,
The truest, sweetest poet of our time,
Whose fame in every cultured nation rings
In cots of peasants, palaces of kings;
Whose mystic call allures us to explore
Enchanting fields we never saw before.
Immortal Yeats! long may thy course aspire;
Long may thy adept fingers tune the lyre;
The brightest flame cast from the muse's fire."

POST BAG.

JOHN DAVIS WHITE AND CASHEL PRINTING (Vol. VI., p. 193). It is gratifying that the work of John Davis White should be so fittingly recorded in the "I.B.L." by Mr. McC. Dix. To the list of publications it might be well to add that a third and enlarged edition of "The Rock of Cashel" was issued in 1888, consisting of 16 pages, with frontispiece, and with 16 plates in addition to the illustrations in the text. Its published price was 1s. 6d., and my copy has a paper cover as purple as the Galtee mountains. In the preface he writes: "In it I have written what I believe to be true, and have not taken upon myself (as some others have occasionally done) to make History palatable to any nationality, class or creed." He had a curious taste in colours, the covers of his publications being either yellow, purple, or salmon colour. As he prided himself on being independent and neutral in matters of religion and politics, this was, no doubt, an amiable way of illustrating his attitude. I recall a pleasant meeting with him about twenty-five years ago, when visiting Holycross Abbey, Cashel, and Thomastown Castle, the old seat of the Mathews. A charming bookman, one felt he was thoroughly in key with his environment, so delightfully isolated from the world of trains and telephones, with his little museum, printing press and weekly journal—all as quaint as the ancient town whose memorials he loved to trace.

London.

FRANK MacDONAGH.

"DAVIS, MANGAN AND DE JEAN" (Vol. VI., p. 80). It may interest some of your readers to know that John Savage's fine lecture on the above was reprinted in "The Shamrock" for 17th July, 1874.

Dublin.

B. S.

ENNISKILLEN PRINTING (Vol. VII., p. 4). I send you the full collation of one item in Mr. Dix's excellent list. 1846. Laws and Ordinances of the Loyal Orange Institution of Ireland. Printed by Wm. Trimble at the "Reporter" Office. $8\frac{1}{2} \times 5\frac{1}{4}$. Title + blank + 3 + 15 equal 20 pp. in all. (Linen Hall Library, Belfast.)

Belfast.

A. A. CAMPBELL.

FATHER WALSH'S IRISH SONG BOOKS. To the honoured names of Bunting, Hudson, Petrie, Joyce, O'Neill and others who have striven during the last century to preserve and foster our native music there must be added that of An t-Athair Padraig Breathnach (known to

English speakers as the Rev. Patk. Walsh, C M). Canon Martin Murphy, of Cork, was impressed with the lack of suitable Irish song books for schools, and at his suggestion Father Walsh undertook their compilation. The work entailed a great sacrifice of time and energy, but the compiler's enthusiasm and love of Ireland's language and music enabled him to bring his task to a successful conclusion. Frequent visits to the Irish-speaking districts resulted in the noting down of the old Irish songs with the traditional airs to which they are still sung in those favoured glens and mountains where anglicisation has not yet triumphed. Father Walsh has given us a series of 7 booklets, each containing 32 pages and some 20 beautiful old Irish airs in tonic-solfa notation with the original songs in the Irish language with which they have been associated for hundreds of years. The booklets, which bear the appropriate title of "Fuinn na Smol," are published by Messrs. Browne and Nolan, of Dublin, at one penny each, and 7 booklets may be obtained bound together for one shilling. Recognising that unfortunately a great number of singers do not yet understand the Irish language sufficiently well to be able to sing an Irish song, Father Walsh has compiled another series of penny booklets, twelve in number, in which he has gathered together nearly 200 Anglo-Irish songs and ballads and wedded them to old traditional Irish airs. This series entitled "Songs of the Gael" may be obtained bound in one volume for one shilling and sixpence from the same publishers. Apart from its interest and value as a storehouse of Irish music, the volume is a useful and very readable anthology of the poetry of those Irishmen and women who wrote in the language of the stranger.

Cork.

SEAMUS O'CASAIDE.

QUERIES AND REPLIES.

AUTHOR FOUND (Vol. VI., p. 12). The poem sought for by Father Gogarty is to be found in a volume of verse by Katherine Tynan, entitled "Innocencies." 8vo. (Maunsell.) 1905.

Belfast.

CATHAL O'BYRNE.

PRINTING IN BALLYCLARE (Vol. V., p. 129). I have just come across a reference which accurately fixes the date of the publication of "The Poetical Works of Thomas Beggs, Ballyclare, the first known book printed there. The "Larne Weekly Reporter" for 30th November, 1867, after quoting a poem, says it is "copied from a small volume

of Miscellaneous Works by the late Thomas Beggs, of Cottonmount, now in course of publication by his friend Samuel Corry, of Ballyclare."

Ardriagh.

FRANCIS JOSEPH BIGGER.

"MAJOR MUSKERRY."—Who was "Major Muskerrey," the author of numerous articles on Irish history, biography, and topography, in Irish and American periodicals between thirty and forty years ago? In a Dublin weekly magazine, now defunct ("Young Ireland"), some of these sketches were re-published in the late eighties, and erroneously ascribed to John Mitchel. The latter, in his historical tract, "1641: Reply to the Falsification of History, by James Antony Froude," refers to him when quoting from a biographical sketch of Sir William Petty, "by a citizen of Brooklyn, Major Muskerrey."

London.

F. MacD.

MOTHER AUGUSTINE McKENNA (Vol. VI., p. 30). I have a copy of the book referred to by Mr. Rushe, "Poems for Catholics and Convents, and Plays for Catholic Schools," published at Westchester, N.Y., 1874, and Mr. Rushe can see it at any time. It is a volume of over 300 pages, and contains about 150 poems, a few of which are signed "M. C. S." The preface is signed "Sr. M. A." I am obliged to Mr. Rushe for identifying the author. Can he give the dates of her birth and death?

D. J. O'D.

"THAUMATURGUS" (Vol. VI., p. 209.) My copy of this book contains 270 pages. The imprint is—"Belfast: Printed for M. Dawson, 9, High-street, 1816." The heading of page 122 is as stated by Mr. O'Donoghue. At the foot of the last page are the words "End of Vol. I." Bound up with my copy is another "Thaumaturgus" in three parts, printed and published in Glasgow in 1816. It purports to be letters written from Manchester by one Donald Cameron, a Dunblane weaver. In it are several references to political affairs of the period in Belfast. I wonder does Mr. O'Donoghue know anything of yet another "Thaumaturgus," a whimsical poem published in London and Dublin in 1828. According to its author, it owed its origin to "an attempt to sustain, at a Civic Masquerade in Dublin, the character of a kind of literary Munchausen."

Belfast.

A. A. CAMPBELL.

IRISH BOOK COLLECTOR (Vol. VI., p. 135). The William Powell inquired for at this reference was a master printer in Dublin, carry-

ing on business at 68, Thomas St., opposite John St., from 1835 till 1865, at any rate, and perhaps longer. In the latter year he was, in common with twenty-three other well-known Dublin printers, a signatory to the revised scale of prices then agreed upon between master and men. His armorial book-plate bore a lion's head "collared" with the motto "Anima In Amicis Una," and the inscription "Ex Bibliotheca Gulielmus Powell, No. —." Doubtless a search amongst the Dublin sale catalogues would reveal the date of his death (approximately), and of his auction sale, presuming his valuable library was not sold privately. Specimens of his work and some of his books have passed through my hands.

Dublin.

P. M.

OBITUARY.

PROFESSOR MORGAN WILLIAM CROFTON, D.Sc., F.R.S. This distinguished mathematician was a scion of the Crofton family of Mohill, Co. Leitrim, being a great-grandson of Sir Morgan Crofton, first baronet (see Crofton Memoirs: York, 1911). Educated at T.C.D., where he gained a senior moderatorship in mathematics in 1847, he was professor of Experimental Physics in Queen's College, Galway (1849-1852), and afterwards professor of mathematics in some of the Jesuit educational institutions in France. In 1856 he was appointed to the mathematical staff of the Royal Military Academy at Woolwich, and on the retirement of Prof. J. J. Sylvester became Professor of Mathematics there. Among his pupils were Lord Kitchener, Sir Leslie Rundle, Sir Mathew Nathan, Sir Reginald Wingate, and the late Prince Imperial. The crowning honour came to him in 1868, when he was elected F.R.S. Mr. Crofton was a frequent contributor to French and English scientific journals, and upheld in his writings the well-known reputation of Irishmen in his chosen science. He began in the "Nouvel Annuaire Mathématique" for 1862 with a paper on "Equation du Système du quatre normales menées d'un point à une ellipse," which was followed by several learned contributions to the London Mathematical Society's Proceedings (1866-1881), the Messenger of Mathematics, the Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society, the Proceedings R.I.A., etc., etc. The Encyclopædia Britannica, 9th ed., Vol. xix., contains an article from his pen on "Probability." He was also joint author of "Tracts on Mathematics" which has found its way into a second edition. Notwith-

standing the engrossing nature of his studies, Mr. Crofton retained other interests in life. His only surviving daughter, now the Rev. Mother, Sacred Heart Convent, Roscrea, in a letter says: "He was well able to converse on any topic, religious, historical or political; he followed with great interest any questions of the day." And perhaps nothing portrays his disposition and character so well as another extract from the same letter: "He read his children's story books and laughed over them, and often they amused him more than the children, so simple were his tastes." Mr. Crofton lived off and on for many years past at Monkstown, Co. Dublin, and died at Brighton on the 13th May last in his 89th year. His biography, by Sir Joseph Larmor, of Cambridge, is already in the press. J. B.

CANON MURPHY. Very Rev. Jeremiah Canon Murphy, D.D., died on 1st August, at Macroom, Co. Cork, where he was parish priest, aged 75 years. He was a notable book lover, whose library was possibly one of the most extensive in Ireland, especially rich in Irish works and incunabula. He was a fluent speaker and an able lecturer, whose wonderful memory and mastery of his subjects enabled him to dispense with notes. A vigorous writer, he contributed chiefly to "The Irish Ecclesiastical Record," and on one or two occasions to the "Nineteenth Century." He edited, with a biographical introduction, a new edition of Cardinal Wiseman's "Essays on Various Subjects," London (Thomas Baker). 1888.

Queenstown.

J. Cn.

FORTHCOMING WORKS.

Messrs. Macmillan will shortly publish a new volume or verse by James Stephens, who has returned from Paris, and again finds inspiration in his native land. It will be entitled "The Adventures of Seumas Beg: The Rocky Road to Dublin." Mr. Stephens, by the way, has just been appointed assistant director of the National Gallery, Dublin.

Under the title of "Historic Graves in Glasnevin Cemetery," Messrs. James Duffy and Co., will shortly publish a volume of over 210 pages, the work of Mr. R. J. O'Duffy, the accomplished antiquary and Gaelic scholar. A comprehensive sketch of the Cemetery, from its initiation by O'Connell to the present, occupies the opening chapter of the book. This is followed by historical notices and dates of all the most important personages interred in the great necropolis.

The Irish Book Advertiser.

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